## APPENDIX

1. [An annulus stent, for repair of an intervertebral disc annulus]The [therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device of claim 21 further comprising an elongated centralized vertical extension, said centralized vertical extension comprising a left and a right lateral extension along said centralized vertical extension's horizontal axis.

2. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 1, wherein said left and right lateral extensions comprise an inside edge, an outside edge, an upper surface and a lower surface, wherein said inside edge joins said centralized vertical extension to form a substantially horizontal plane.

3. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 2, wherein said upper surface forms an angle of about 0 to 60 degrees below said substantially horizontal plane.

4. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 2, wherein the length of said inside edge is less than the length of said outside edge.

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5. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 2, wherein said inside edge has a greater thickness than said outside edge.

6. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 2, wherein said upper surface is barbed.

7. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 2, further comprising a recess wherein said upper surface joins said centralized vertical extension.

8. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 21, further comprising a flexible bladder [affixed to said lower surface of said left and right lateral extensions].

9. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 8, wherein said flexible bladder comprises a [membrane] material enclosing an internal cavity.

10. [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 8, wherein said internal cavity is empty.

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11. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 8, wherein said [membrane] material comprises a thin flexible biocompatible material.

12. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 8, wherein said [membrane] material further comprises a semi-permeable material.

13. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 8, wherein said internal cavity contains a biocompatible fluid.

14. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 13, wherein said biocompatible fluid is a hydrogel.

15. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 9, wherein said [membrane] material further comprises an impermeable material.

16. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 9, wherein said internal cavity contains a biocompatible fluid.

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17. The [annulus stent therapeutic device]therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 1, wherein said centralized vertical extension is of a shape selected from the group consisting of a trapezoid, circular and curved.

18. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 1, wherein said [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device is made from a material selected from the group consisting of a biocompatible material, a bioactive material, and a bioresorbable material.

19. The [annulus stent therapeutic device] therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 19, wherein said [annulus stent therapeutic device]therapeutic or prophylactic device comprises a biocompatible fiber mesh.

20. The [annulus stent therapeutic device]therapeutic or prophylactic device according to claim 23, wherein said [annulus stent therapeutic device]therapeutic or prophylactic device comprises a material selected from the group consisting of: expandable polytetrafluoroethylyene (ePTFE); a material to facilitate regeneration of disc tissue; and a hygroscopic material.

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NEW CLAIMS:

21. A therapeutic or prophylactic device for treating a spinal disc annulus having an aperture, the device comprising a biocompatible material for placement in and across the aperture such that said material forms a bridge providing a platform for a traverse of fibroblasts or other normal cells of repair existing in and around the various layers of the disc annulus.

22. The therapeutic or prophylactic device of claim 21, further comprising means for fixating said device in or to the annulus of a patient.

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